

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF MONROE COUNTY
FORTY-THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
CIVIL DIVISION

IN RE: 43rd JUDICIAL DISTRICT : No. 85 AD 2020
EMERGENCY ADMINISTRATIVE :
ORDER (COVID-19) :
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MODIFICIATION OF COURT'S : Supreme Court Docketing No.
TRANSITIONAL PROTOCOL : 38 MM 2020
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EMERGENCY ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

AND NOW, this 12th day of June, 2020, pursuant to the Emergency Orders issued by this Court and the Administrative Orders issued by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic; after consideration of the recommendations and guidelines issued by the CDC, the Pennsylvania Department of Health, and numerous local and regional medical experts consulted by this Court; in keeping with the spirit of the Governor's and Secretary of Health's Orders; in furtherance of the mandate of Pennsylvania Rule of Judicial Administration 1952(B)(2) that the President Judge "take necessary action to provide for the ...safety of court personnel, court users and the public..."; and following a careful balancing of the public's right of access to courts against health, safety, and welfare concerns arising from the pandemic that necessitated the Emergency Orders, it is **ORDERED** as follows:

The Court's Transition Protocol, attached as Appendix A to Emergency Administrative Order 83 AD 2020, is hereby amended to delete the existing language in Juvenile – Dependency, Section (F)(4) and replace it with the following:

When Monroe County goes into COVID-19 Green Status, the current moratorium on in-person visits and communication will end. Visitation and communication with children may transition from virtual visits and contacts to in-person visits and contacts, provided that the recommendations of the Center for Disease Control, the Pennsylvania Department of Health, and the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services are followed, and the facts and circumstances of each case, child, parent or guardian, and foster parent are considered.

All Orders related to this Judicial Emergency can be found on the Court's website at www.monroepacourts.us or the UJS portal at <http://www.pacourts.us/ujs-coronavirus-information>. The Transitional Protocol, as updated by this Order, is also available on the Court's website.

This Order shall remain in effect until further order of the President Judge of this Court or the Pennsylvania Supreme Court.

BY THE COURT,


MARGHERITA PATTI-WORTHINGTON, P.J.

cc: Honorable Arthur L. Zulick
Honorable Jonathan Mark
Honorable Jennifer Harlacher Sibum
Honorable Stephen M. Higgins
Honorable David J. Williamson
Honorable C. Daniel Higgins
All Magisterial District Judges
Geoff Moulton, Court Administrator of Pennsylvania
John J. Goldner, District Court Administrator
Kathy Sauter, Magisterial District Court Administrator
Deborah Rivera, Deputy District Court Administrator
Ken Morris, Sheriff
Garry Haidle, Warden, Monroe County Correctional Facility

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MONROE COUNTY, PA

George Warden, Prothonotary/Clerk of Courts
Josephine Ferro, Register and Recorder
E. David Christine, Esq, District Attorney
James Gregor, Esq, Chief Public Defender
Monroe County Control Center
All Municipal Police Agencies within Monroe County
Pennsylvania State Police – Lehighton, Stroudsburg & Fern Ridge Barracks
East Stroudsburg University Police Department
Women's Resources of Monroe County
Denise Burdge, Executive Director MCBA
Brian Jordan, Esq., President MCBA
Patricia Clancy, Information Services
Monroe County Children and Youth Services
Monroe County Board of Commissioners